

Stream Team Annual Report

2018

promoting citizen
awareness and involvement
in river and stream conservation

A Summary of Stream Team Activities

Our amazing volunteers logged more than 152,000 hours across the state in 2018. We also gained 190 new Teams, bringing the total number of Stream Teams to over 5,900 with over 4,700 Teams active statewide. Here's a quick look at some other highlights from last year:

- ◆ 433 tons of trash was removed from Missouri's rivers and streams.
- ◆ 891 water quality monitoring trips were completed.
- ◆ 3,892 trees were planted.
- ◆ 124 storm drains were stenciled.
- ◆ 109 habitat improvement projects were completed.
- ◆ Over \$3.8 million worth of volunteer labor was dedicated.
- ◆ Stream Team Academy hosted workshops on Groundwater and Understanding Streams.

A total of 876 citizen scientists reported 891 monitoring trips and involved over 3,000 participants collecting biological, chemical, and physical data in 2018. Our tiered VWQM training structure allows flexibility for citizen involvement while increasing education and use of data collected at each level of training.

Water Quality Monitoring Workshops	Number of Workshops	Number of Volunteers Trained
Introductory	11	194
Level 1	5	53
Level 2	3	24
Level 3	1	1
VWQM Validation	5	27
CSI	4	4
Total	29	303

The Stash Your Trash Program targets trash on Missouri streams by providing litter bags to Missouri's float outfitters. In 2018, 145 float outfitters throughout the state participated in the Stash Your Trash Program, 100 of which offered discounts

to Stream Team volunteers in the Stream Team Float Outfitters Discount Directory. More than 318,000 red mesh bags were provided to livery business owners to distribute to the public, preventing countless tons of trash from entering Missouri's recreational waterways. More than 31,000 red and green mesh bags and over 4,900 blue poly bags were provided to Stream Teams in their cleanup efforts.

Stream Team Awards

The Stream Team Ambassador Awards recognize volunteer accomplishments in the Program's three primary goals of education, stewardship, advocacy, as well as water quality monitoring. Also in 2018 a benefactor award was presented. These awards are given to groups or organizations who provide significant contributions to the Program. The 2018 recipients for activities conducted in 2017 were:

- ◆ **Education:** Ted Haviland
Stream Team 713
- ◆ **Stewardship:** Charlene Waggoner
Stream Team 463
- ◆ **Advocacy:** Terry Spence
Stream Team 714
- ◆ **VWQM:** Lynne Hooper
Stream Team 4794
- ◆ **Benefactor:** Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District (MSD) accepted on behalf of MSD by Roland Biehl
Stream Team 4891



From left to right: Lynne Hooper, Terry Spence, Ted Haviland, Charlene Waggoner.



Stream Team 3 had an unusual find, a pipeline sphere, on the Bourbeuse River during the 51st annual Operation Clean Stream.



Streams Teams met at Piney River Brewery to learn more about Stream Teams United and their local Association.



Students at Smith-Cotton High School (Team 2800) check out invertebrates sampled from Pearl River in Pettis County.



Stream Team 5390 removed more than 450 pounds of trash from Brush Creek in Jackson county.

Activity	Participants	Hours	Units	Value*
Adopt-An-Access	7	7	7 agreements	\$178.01
Advocacy	22	115	38 events	\$2,924.45
Articles Written (newspaper, newsletter, etc.)	8	11	8 articles	\$279.73
Association Activities	238	1,174	47 events	\$29,854.82
Award Winners	16	16	6 awards	\$406.88
Display at Fairs, etc.	70	409	28 events	\$10,400.87
Educational Projects	6,569	40,675	175 events	\$1,034,365.25
Forestkeepers (Forest Monitoring)	22	118	18 trips	\$3,000.74
Habitat Improvement	705	3,342	109 projects	\$84,987.06
Invasive Species Monitoring	448	504	28 trips	\$12,816.72
Letters (written in support of ST issue)	1	2	1 letters	\$50.86
Litter Pickups	16,801	85,748	433 tons of trash	\$2,180,571.64
Media Contacts	32	51	28 interviews	\$1,296.93
Mentoring	66	126	21 projects	\$3,204.18
Monofilament Recycling Project	36	62	28 ounces	\$1,576.66
Meetings (held or attended)	1,031	3,020	1,168 attendees	\$76,798.60
Other Miscellaneous Projects**	644	2,281	147 projects	\$58,005.83
Planted Trees	494	1,344	3,892 trees	\$34,177.92
Pre-activity Planning	386	1,263	251 projects	\$32,118.09
Photo Point Monitoring	51	66	69 photos	\$1,678.38
Presentations to Other Groups	1,070	2,028	50 presentations	\$51,572.04
Rain Garden/Barrel or Green Roof	25	65	9 projects	\$1,652.95
Recruitment (new members)	44	60	50 people	\$1,525.80
River Observation (possible pollution event)	4	14	3 projects	\$356.02
Stream Access Maintenance	29	128	6 projects	\$3,255.04
Storm Drain Stenciling	53	132	124 drains	\$3,356.76
Streambank Stabilization Projects	2	2	1 projects	\$50.86
Watershed Mapping	2	2	1 inventories	\$50.86
Workshops (attended or conducted)	376	3,157	394 attendees	\$80,282.51
Water Quality Monitoring	3,216	6,893	891 trips	\$175,288.99
Totals	32,468	152,815		\$3,886,085.45

*\$25.43/hour is the current national wage rate for the estimated value of volunteer time (U.S. Dept. of Labor).

**Includes projects like website development, newsletters, scout programs, fundraising, etc.



Team 1883 has monitored at this site on Little Femme Osage for 15 years!

What's to come ...

Looking ahead, we anticipate obstacles related to extreme weather and flooding will challenge some Teams but much like the human spirit, the volunteer spirit will persist. Opportunities to contribute in cleanup efforts will abound and provide a valuable learning experience in working as a community for stream resources. The coming years will continue to test us as stream stewards and advocates for quality waters and the landscapes that feed them, but the citizens that demand this Program will be the key in looking upward and onward for continual improvement.

The only thing constant is change as we continue to reduce paper waste and move to electronic services. Stream Teams United ramps up their paddling events and celebration opportunities as the Program turns 30. Teams are continuing to grow into well-oiled machines, delivering events to attract hundreds, if not thousands, of new volunteers. Water quality monitors continue to build confidence in monitoring techniques and improve the quality of data submitted. Overall, it is never a dull moment when we care about our streams the way we do in Missouri!

Questions? Please contact us at:
1-800-781-1989 (voicemail)
streamteam@mdc.mo.gov or streamteam@dnr.mo.gov
mostreamteam.org
[facebook.com/mostreamteams](https://www.facebook.com/mostreamteams)

2018 Fast Facts

During 2018, Stream Teams . . .

- ◆ collected **433** tons of trash
- ◆ planted **3,892** trees
- ◆ stenciled **124** storm drains
- ◆ conducted **891** water monitoring trips
- ◆ gave **50** presentations to other groups
- ◆ completed **174** educational events
- ◆ reported **152,815** total volunteer hours

29-year Fast Facts

Since 1989, Stream Teams have . . .

- ◆ collected **12,780** tons of trash
- ◆ planted **347,935** trees
- ◆ stenciled **19,208** storm drains
- ◆ conducted **31,494** water monitoring trips
- ◆ given **3,313** presentations to other groups
- ◆ completed **5,486** educational events
- ◆ reported **3,039,706** total volunteer hours